

Need for Anti-Bugging Protection Leads to Development of Spy Shop

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Washington's latest venture into the James Bond business is an enigma worthy of its name—the Spy Shop.

Founded in June, the New York ave. nw., store specializes in the sale of bugging detection equipment and security surveillance apparatus. In addition it stocks a line of less exotic electronic gear and makes occasional

sales of tear gas and an incapacitating spray.

The shop was started by Freda J. Albert, who is also vice president and director of the Polycup Corp., makers of styrofoam drinking cups and containers. She describes the Spy Shop as a "hobby," unconnected with Polycup.

Her business interest in bugging began when she found her own home, phone and car tapped and could get no help in preventing a

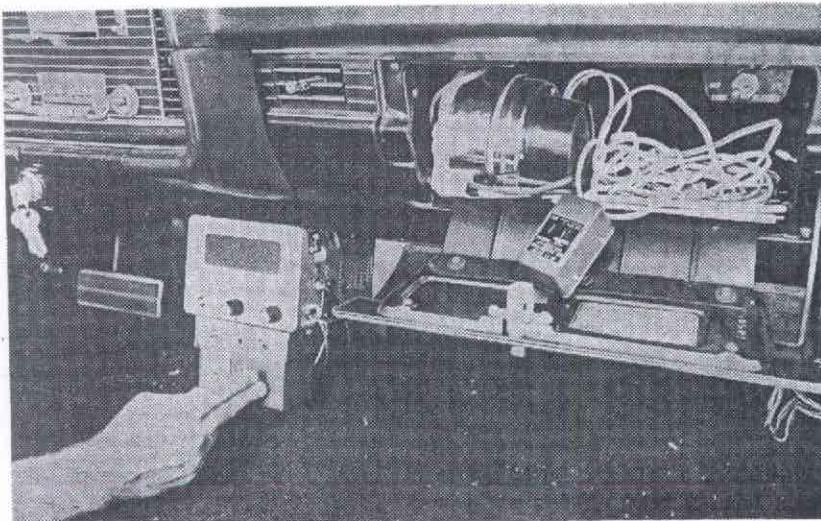
recurrence of the bugging. As a result she created the Spy Shop with Clyde Wallace, an employee of American Aircraft Corp., who had helped her uncover the bugs in her house.

Despite a Federal statute outlawing the sale of bugging gear, experts say it is relatively simple for an untrained person to build an unsophisticated or "Mickey Mouse" unit from off-the-shelf parts. Books are available providing simple cir-

cuit diagrams for a variety of bugs.

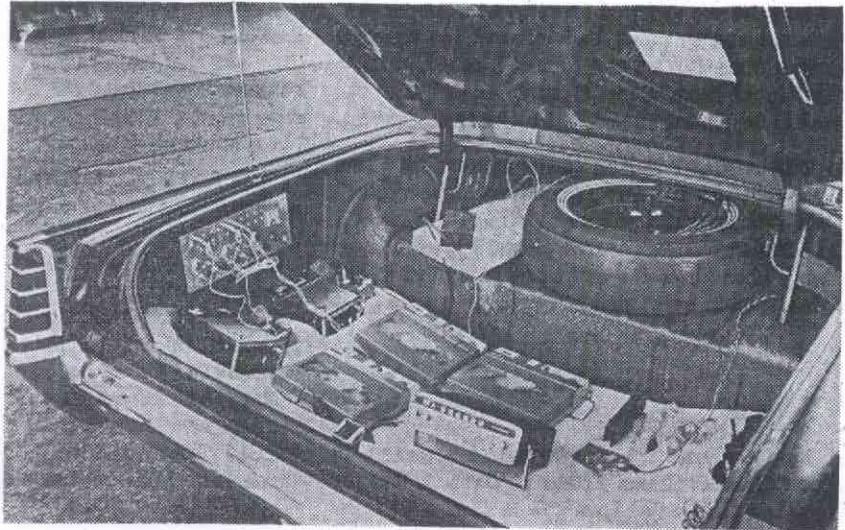
Such units are easy to detect, said the Spy Shop's Wallace. His cost for debugging them runs \$25 an hour. The cost for killing some of the more sophisticated rigs can run as high as \$240 an hour. Wallace said such devices are often used by foreign companies keen on industrial espionage.

Counter espionage and de-
See SPY, F2, Col. 2



TRACKER—Hand shown in photograph is turning on tailing device (tracker) which then begins to receive a signal from a 'plant' located in other auto under surveillance.

Other switches and gadgets on dash board and glove compartment are for different microphones including a hidden bug in back seat of car.



Photos by Ken Felt—The Washington Post

PAYOUT—The expensive units of bugging are shown in the trunk of the tracking car. Some of the gadgets shown here

are used for receiving and recording information from planted bugs, telephone taps and several portable units.

Spy Shop Created as Hobby

SPY, From F1

signing and installing security apparatus, including bug-jamming equipment is the firm's bread and butter.

Trickiest of the counter-espionage cases are those which Wallace feels involve organized crime. If he suspects a law enforcement

000 worth of detection gear to do its work. This equipment, much of which is custom designed, will be available to franchises the firm is in the process of setting up nationally.

Among other Spy Shop equipment are cars containing over \$30,000 of electronic gear used to follow other

cars or to receive signals from planted bugs. These are available only to law enforcement agencies at \$300 a day rental fee.

The Spy Shop does not sell bugging equipment to the general public. But Wallace claims he does manufacture these devices for law enforcement groups.